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THE  
ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH TO THE  
LISKEARD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
FOR THE YEAR,  
1943.

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To the Chairman and Members of the Liskeard Rural District Council.

Gentlemen, -

I beg to present my Annual Report of the Health of the Rural District of Liskeard. The Liskeard Rural District consists of 21 parishes within which are some 55 Villages and Hamlets. In 8 of the larger villages there are publicly owned piped water supplies, at Polruan, Polperro, Killigarth, St. Neot St. Cleer, Tremar Coombe, Menheniot and Seaton. These are adequate except in the case of Polruan and Menheniot. In a further nine villages there are privately owned piped supplies which are partially sufficient for present day requirements. New schemes for piped supplies for Pensilva, Pelynt, Pengover, Merrmeet and Common Moor have been considered but either have been deferred until after the war or rejected on account of cost.

The remainder of the villages are served by wells or springs all more or less liable to periodic pollution. In most of these Villages the supply is generally adequate for present purposes but quite inadequate when water closets, kitchen sinks and baths are considered. There is an obvious need for the development of a water scheme to cover the whole of the District which would meet the needs of areas not at present served and augment or replace the present inadequate supply at Polruan.

The Health of the district has been good during the period under review - most of the cases of Infectious diseases having been the usual in Childhood. During the year 391 Children were immunised against Diptheria and it is estimated that at the end of the year 63% of the children under 5 and 82.87% of the children of School age had been immunised.

It is noteworthy that of the two cases of Diptheria notified, neither had been immunised and one of them died.

The Local Division of the St. John Ambulance Association in spite of very reduced numbers, has dealt most satisfactorily with every call made. The few remaining members are carrying on in a most self sacrificing and efficient manner until they can be rejoined by their comrades who have joined the services. Cadets, whose numbers are increasing, are, by constant practice and enthusiasm, fitting themselves for their larger share of the work in due course. We owe them all a debt of gratitude. Our District Nurses, too, have more than upheld the very high standard we have become accustomed to expect. In spite of all the inconveniences brought about by the war, these nurses have carried on in a most praiseworthy manner.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LISKEARD  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Medical Officer of Health. Dr. E. S. Toogood. Golden Bank, Liskeard.

The following Medical Practitioners act as part-time District Medical Officers and/or Public Vaccinators.

Dr. A. G. Aitken.....Callington.  
Dr. W. H. King.....Fowey.  
Dr. A. McCloy.....Polperro.  
Dr. B. B. Metcalf.....Liskeard.  
Dr. L. Moran.....Looe.  
Dr. O. R. Snaile.....Pensilva.

Sanitary Inspector	}	Mr. G. Rogers. A.R.S.I. Liskeard.
Meat & Food Inspector.		
Milk & Dairy Inspector.		
Building Surveyor.		

### Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area of the District.	104,851 acres.
Registrar-General's estimate of Resident Population.	15,250.
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1943 according to Rate Books.	4,826
Rateable Value of the District.	35,236
Sum represented by a Penny Rate.	£154.9.10.

### Social Conditions.

Agriculture and Dairy Farming are the chief industries carried on in the district. We have no industries in our Rural District which are prejudicial to health.

### Vital Statistics.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate	222	101	121
Illegitimate.	16	11	5
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	15.6		
Birth-rate for England and Wales.	16.5		
<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate.	5	4	1
Illegitimate.	Nil	Nil	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)	20.57		
<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Deaths	221	108	113
Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	14.49		
Death-rate for England and Wales.	12.1		
<u>Deaths from Puerperal Causes</u>			
Puerperal Sepsis.	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other Puerperal causes.	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>Death-rate of Infants under One Year of Age.</u>			
All infants per 1,000 Live Births.	58.8		
Legitimate Infants per 1,000			
Legitimate Live Births.	54.05		
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Live Births.	125.0		
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	25		
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	-		
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1		
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	1		



### Chief Causes of Death.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Diphtheria	1	-	1
Scarlet Fever.	1	-	1
Respiratory Tuberculosis	2	1	1
Syphilitic Diseases	1	1	-
Influenza	11	6	5
Acute Encephalitis.	1	-	1
Diabetes.	2	2	-
Cerebral Haemorrhage.	24	13	11
Heart Disease	83	32	51
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	1	1
Bronchitis	7	2	5
Pneumonia	6	3	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	0	1
Other Digestive Diseases	13	5	8
Nephritis.	3	2	1
Premature Birth.	5	3	2
Congenital Malformation, Birth			
Injuries-Infantile Diseases.	5	5	-
Suicide.	1	1	-
Road Traffic Accidents.	2	1	1
Other Violent Causes.	10	6	4
All other causes.	14	7	7

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

#### Public Health Officer of the Authority.

##### (a) Medical.-

Medical Officer of Health-Dr.E.S.Toogood,Golden Bank,Liskeard.

The following Medical Practitioners act as part-time District Medical Officers and/or as Public Vaccinators;-

Dr.A.G.Aitken .....Callington.

Dr.W.H.King.....Fowey.

Dr.A.McCloy.....Polperro.

Dr.B.B.Metcalf.....Liskeard.

Dr.L.Moran.....Looe.

Dr.O.R.Smale.....Pensilva.

Dr.E.Wordley, of Plymouth, undertakes the pathological examination of material submitted.

County Tuberculosis Officer- Dr.Day, County Hall, Truro.

##### (b) Others-

Sanitary Inspector

Meat & Food Inspector

Milk & Dairy Inspector

Building Surveyor

Mr.G.Rogers. A.R.S.I.

Liskeard.

Public Analysts of Water-

(a) Chemical, Messrs.Benedict Kitto & Sons,London.

(b) Bacteriological, Mr.Wm.Partridge,Holborn,

#### A. Laboratory Facilities.

No change has been made in the arrangements for the examination and analysis of clinical material, water, milk and foodstuffs. Milk and pathological examinations are carried out by Dr. E. Wordley, Plymouth. Foodstuffs by the County Analyst.

#### B. Ambulance Facilities.

These are perfectly satisfactory and adequate. The Ambulance staffed and driven by members of the Liskeard Division of the St. John Ambulance Association. They undertake the removal of non-infectious cases - accident and maternity cases. The total number of cases dealt with during 1943 was 177 and a total mileage of 5,116 miles was covered.

One or more members of the Women's Division accompany the Ambulance when female cases are being removed. The work of both the men and women of this organisation is excellent and it is impossible to over-praise their gratuitous work.

### NURSING IN THE HOME.

#### C. General and Maternity.

Local Nursing Associations provide Nurses who are Certified Midwives in co-operation with the Cornwall County Council. Practically the whole of the Rural District is covered by the work of these Local Associations.

Membership of a Local Association costs only a small sum each year. I recommend very strongly all those in the Rural District who are not already members to approach either the Nurse or Local Secretary without delay.

It is with pleasure that I record the very excellent work carried out by the District Nurses in the area.

#### Infectious.

The District Nurses are forbidden to undertake the Nursing of Infectious Diseases. When necessary these are treated at the Isolation Hospital, Truro. Minor Infectious diseases are treated at the County Council's Hospital at Newquay, when necessary.

#### D. Clinic and Treatment Centres.

No new Clinic or Treatment Centres have been opened in the Rural District during 1943.

#### E. Hospitals.

**PUBLIC-** The Public Assistance Hospital, situated in the Borough of Liskeard, receives cases from the Rural District of Liskeard and elsewhere.

**VOLUNTARY-** The Passmore Edwards Cottage Hospital, also situated in the Borough of Liskeard, has been used extensively by the inhabitants of the Rural District. This Hospital contains 27 beds (12 general - 6 female and 4 male) 5 private wards, 3 emergency beds and 7 cots.

237 patients were treated during 1943 and there were 233 out-patients. 96 operations were carried out under anaesthetics.





## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

There was an increase in the number of notifiable infectious diseases during the year, 143 notifications (other than Tuberculosis) being received. Measles were the most prevalent. Scarlet Fever was also prevalent to a lesser extent. The County Isolation Hospital at Truro received many of the cases of Scarlet Fever. The removal of these cases helped to prevent a larger spread of the Disease.

### Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified.</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Scarlet Fever.	34	1
Whooping Cough	7	1
Diphtheria	2	1
Erysipelas	4	-
Measles	76	-
Pneumonia.	17	6
Puerperal Sepsis.	3	-
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.	1	-
Ophthalmic Neonatorum	1	-
Acute Eucephalitis.	1	1

### PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, nor under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of Blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

No action has been necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925 (relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the Milk Trade), nor under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925 (relating to the compulsory removal to a hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis).

### New Cases and Mortality during 1943.

<u>Age Periods.</u>	<u>New Cases.</u>				<u>Deaths.</u>			
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory.</u>		<u>Respiratory.</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
15	.2.....	.2.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
25	.....	.3.....	.....	.....	1.....	.....	.....	.....
35	.1.....	.....	.1.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
45	.2.....	.1.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
55	.1.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.1.....	.....	.....
65	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
and upwards	6	6	1	.....	1	1	.....	.....

The County Tuberculosis Officer is always available for consultation with the doctor concerned. Pathological specimens are examined and a diagnostic X-Ray plant is in use at Tehidy Sanatorium. The County Tuberculosis Officer attends each month at Lamellion House, Liskeard, for a periodic survey of cases in the area.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant.

E.S. TOOGOOD. M.A. (Oxon) M.R.C.S.  
Medical Officer of Health.

Golden Bank,  
Liskeard,